

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING (06-13) OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1,
IN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER AND STATE OF COLORADO
HELD IN THE BOARD ROOM, 900 GRANT STREET
5:00 P.M., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2006

I. Call to Order – 5:05 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

President Theresa Pena called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. The following Board of Education members were present: Ms. Jill Conrad, Rev. Lucia Guzman, Mr. Bruce Hoyt, Mrs. Jeannie Kaplan, Mrs. Michelle Moss, Mr. Kevin Patterson, and Ms. Theresa Peña.

Academic Performance by East High School’s Constitutional Scholars

Susan McHugh, East High School teacher, introduced the following Constitutional Scholar students: Than Hedman, Mackenzie Jacobs, Elise Mann, and Alex Stevens.

II. Board Member Reports

Charter School Presentation to the Board of Education:

Denver Collegiate Academy – Information on the proposed charter school was presented by members of the Founding Team, including Angele Davenport and Heather Lamm.

Colorado Agricultural and Natural Sciences High School – Information on the proposed charter school was presented by Buffie Berger and other members of the Steering Committee.

Ricardo Flores Magón Academy– Information on the proposed charter school was presented by Marcos Martinez and other charter board members.

III. Superintendent’s Report

Manual High School Update

Mr. Bennet discussed the spreadsheet report, Manual Registration Summary as of Wednesday, September 20, 2006. As of now, 56 percent of students are attending over

85 percent of the time at traditional high schools, which is an improvement over last year.

The walk campaign concludes Saturday morning—eight weekends in a row of walking the Manual neighborhood. The results have been tremendous, the numbers listed on the spreadsheet are a direct result of the walk campaign. The renewal effort at Manual is going very well, members of the Manual neighborhood and community are visiting model schools in Boston and Los Angeles, with visits planned for Montbello and the Center for International Studies. Mr. Bennet expressed his appreciation for the hundreds and hundreds of hours that Board of Education members, district staff, and community members volunteered for Manual students. He also thanked the Department of Technology (DOTs), Transportation Department, the Manual Academic Research Center (MARC), and the Community Specialists.

Ms. Conrad thanked the Superintendent for his deep commitment to this effort. She expressed concern for the students who are below the 85 percent attendance rate and asked what strategy they planned to address this attendance issue.

Kim Knous-Dolan, Special Assistant to the Superintendent, said the schools are supposed to call home daily if there are attendance issues. Another planned strategy is the school champion program where each school champion is responsible for tracking approximately five Manual students at their current school. They hope to have that program in place and active very shortly.

Mr. Patterson expressed his appreciation to the Superintendent for keeping the focus and the commitment that this Board made to follow-up the students at Manual, to continue to support the families, and to continue a positive environment for these children so they can continue their high school education.

Mrs. Moss expressed her hope that they will be able to apply some of the lessons they have learned at Manual to all high schools because many of them are in need of help in these areas as well.

In response to Mrs. Moss' questions regarding Infinite Campus, Ms. Dolan said that Infinite Campus has been set up to help parents check on their student's attendance and get daily updates.

Mrs. Moss encouraged parents to check with their child's school and get the password they need to access Infinite Campus. Student information available includes attendance, current grades, missing assignments, and extra credit opportunities.

Recommendations for Teacher Dismissals

The Superintendent presented two recommendation for teacher dismissals: Kathryn Wells and Suzanna Mayo.

IV. Consent Agenda

Assistant Secretary Jacquie Lucero read the Agenda items. In accordance with Consent Agenda procedures, the following items were removed from the Agenda and held for discussion:

Motion to approve Resolution in Opposition of Amendment 39

Motion to approve Resolution in Opposition of Amendment 38

Mr. Hoyt moved that all matters on the Consent Agenda not held be approved. Mr. Patterson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The following items were approved:

Board of Education

Gift Report - A copy is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Motion to Approve Resolution in Opposition of Referendum J - A copy of this Resolution, to oppose Referendum J, a proposed ballot measure on classroom spending requirements referred by the Colorado General Assembly and which will appear on the general election ballot November 2006, would change state law to require each school district in Colorado to spend at least 65 percent of its operational expenditures on instructional and non-instructional services that directly affect student achievement, is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Finance and Audit Committee

Motion to Ratify the Approval of the Independent Contractor Agreement with Educational Based Services - A copy of this motion, which will furnish the district with eight Speech Language Pathologists who provide critical services to students in need, is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Motion to Ratify the Approval of the Independent Contractor Agreement with Sewall Child Development Center- A copy of this motion, which provides preschool educational services to the district's special education children, is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Motion to Approve the Renewal of Software Maintenance and Support to Cayenta - A copy of this motion, to provide continued software maintenance and support for the financial systems software, is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Motion to Approve Issuing a Purchase Order to Denver Pipefitters JATC - A copy of this motion, to allow Emily Griffith Opportunity School to rent the facility, supplies, and equipment for apprenticeship training classes during the 2006-2007 school year, is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

Human Resources

Motion to Approve the Personnel Transaction Report – A copy of this report is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Motion to Ratify the Agreement between Denver Public Schools and the Denver Federation for Paraprofessionals (DFP) Effective July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2009
A copy of this agreement is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Facilities Management

Motion to Approve Use Agreement with the Community College of Denver (CCD)
A copy of this agreement, CCD's current use agreement for Cole Middle School ends on September 30, 2006, the extension will run through June 30, 2007, is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Motion to Approve Acquisition of 35 Acre High School Site Located West of 48th Avenue and Tower Road - The State Land Board will acquire the site; therefore, the district is not required to pay for the site. A copy of this motion is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Denver Public Schools Retirement System

Motion to Amend by Substitution Sections 70.133, 70.1035, 70.1041, 70.1042, and 70.1045 of the Retirement and Benefit Plan - A copy of this agreement, a request for Board approval of the amendments in order to comply with the revised regulations under the Internal Revenue Code for Joint and Survivor Annuities; new language will be substituted that generally reduces the amount of the continuing benefit a co-annuitant will receive if such co-annuitant is a non-spouse and there is more than a ten-year age difference between the member and the co-annuitant, is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

***PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION – 6:35 P.M.**

School Calendar

Sharon Maples, teacher, addressed the Board regarding the proposed calendar. She said that she has discussed this issue with many teachers and they feel that instruction can be improved by starting school in September through June. The heat in the schools in August is so unbearable that there isn't a great deal of learning taking place. They also recommend, in order to break up the long haul from Christmas to June, a two-week Spring Break.

HELD CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS DISCUSSION

Motion to Approve Resolution in Opposition of Amendment 39

Mr. Hoyt said that the November ballot has several amendments that deal with education and he encouraged voters to be really cautious. A lot of times amendment can seem very appealing but these amendments have a number of complicated provisions that go well beyond the stated purpose and are ripe with unintended negative consequences. Members of the Board of Education are proposing resolutions in opposition to two of these amendments.

Mr. Hoyt moved adoption of this resolution. Ms. Conrad seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. A copy of this resolution is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Motion to Approve Resolution in Opposition to Amendment 38

Ms. Kaplan moved adoption of this resolution. Mr. Hoyt seconded the motion. The resolution passed unanimously. A copy of the resolution is attached to the minutes of this meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

Policy Review

Revised Policy KF-R – Community Use of School Facilities – Staff is recommending that the district Policy KF-R be repealed and reenacted in order to support the Denver Plan which will establish a more open, community-friendly, and less costly community use environment. A copy of this policy is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Richard Cosgrove, Executive Director, Facility Management, spoke on the revised Community Use policy.

Ms. Peña invited public comment on the proposed changes to the Community Use policy in the thirty (30) days open for public comment.

Chief Operating Officer

Ms. Kaplan moved that the Board of Education go into an Executive Session to discuss the Denver Association of Educational Office Professionals (DAEOP) pending negotiations related to the collaborative bargaining agreement, pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(e). Mr. Hoyt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. A copy of this motion is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Walter Kramarz, Deputy General Counsel, attested to same at the resumption of the open meeting.

Ms. Peña adjourned the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

Jeanne S. Kaplan, Secretary
Board of Education